

As noted above, this election is made with traverse. Indeed, it is respectfully submitted that the embodiments illustrated in Figures 1 and 4a are merely non-limiting examples of apparatuses that may be used to carry out the method of the invention and that the method of the invention may be carried out with any other suitable apparatus acting according to the recited method. This is underscored by the fact that all pending claims are generic at least to the species identified by the Examiner. For the reasons noted, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's restriction requirement is requested. In any event, upon allowance of one or more generic claims, withdrawal of the Examiner's restriction requirement will be in order.

Attached is a Form PTO-1449 listing the enclosed documents.

The listed documents have been cited in parent Application No. 09/204,067 and therefore are cited herein for completeness.

Because this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before any action on the merits of this application, it is understood that no fee is due for the herewith art to be considered by the Examiner and made of record. If this understanding is in anyway in error and a fee is required for the herewith art to be considered, please contact the undersigned by telephone for authorization to charge the Information Disclosure Statement fee to our deposit account.

This Information Disclosure Statement is intended to be in full compliance with the rules, but should the Examiner find any part of its required content to have been omitted, prompt notice to that effect is earnestly solicited, along with additional time under Rule 97(f), to enable Applicant to comply fully.

Consideration of the foregoing and enclosures plus the return of a copy of the herewith Form PTO-1449 with the Examiner's initials in the left column per MPEP 609 along with an early action on the merits of this application are earnestly solicited.

SCHNEIDER et al
Serial No. **09/576,422**
April 23, 2003

All objections and rejections having been addressed, an early and favorable
Action on all pending claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

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